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The Note Issue.

REPLY TO J. A. DAWSON.

By ERNEST HANKS.

Comrade Dawson in the "I.S." dated June 22nd, attacked an article written by me in which I set out that Marx's theories in regard to the note issue were being vindicated by even the bourgeois economists. Let me here re-quote Comrade Dawson's challenge:—

Comrade Hanks refers to the Note issue as a "watered currency," and says that in his opinion, "a general rise in prices of 50 per cent." is due to the cause of "three bank notes, circulating in the place of two sovereigns." He further states that, "other causes, of course, can be operating," but taking his article as printed, his contention is, that the note issue has been inflated, and that this has caused a 50 per cent. rise in prices. He refers his readers to Karl Marx's "Capital" chap. 3, in support of his contention. I challenge Com. Hanks to show where Marx supports such a false position. I refrain from quoting Marx, until Com. Hanks comes forth with his buttress.

In this first article I will prove that Marx, rightly or wrongly, does support this theory. In the second article, which will follow the first, I will point out the correctness of this theory and show the superficial reasoning which has caused Comrade Dawson to miss sight of some economic factors altogether. And now to quote Marx in proof of my first proposition, viz., That Marx supports this theory.

Critique of Political Economy. Page 156: "Thus while the quantity of gold in circulation is determined by the prices of commodities the value of the paper bills in circulation, on the contrary depends exclusively on their own quantity."

Page 157: "Since paper bills are legal tender no one can prevent the state from forcing as large a quantity of them as it desires into circulation, and from impressing upon it any coin denomination such as £1, £5, £20. The bills which have once gotten into circulation can not be removed since, on the one hand, their course is hemmed in by the frontier posts of the country and on the other, they lose all value, use value as well as exchange value, outside of circulation."

Page 157: "If fourteen million pounds sterling were the quantity of gold required for the circulation of commodities and if the state were to put into circulation two hundred and ten million each of the denomination of £1 then these two hundred and ten millions would become the representatives of gold to the amount of fourteen million pounds sterling. It would be the same as if the state were to make the one pound bills represent a fifteen times less valuable metal or a fifteen times smaller weight of gold."

Page 158 (re the above, E. Hanks): "The rise of prices would constitute but a reaction on the part of the process of circulation, which forcibly equates the tokens of value to the quantity of gold which they are supposed to replace."

Page 158: "The ration which a token of value, whether made of paper or of debased gold or silver, bears to certain weights of gold or silver estimated according to the mint price, depends not on its own composition, but on the quantity in which it is found in circulation."

Page 159-60: "The rise or fall of prices of commodities following a rise or fall of the quantity of paper notes, the latter only where paper currency constitutes the exclusive medium of circulation—is thus nothing but an assertion through the process of circulation of a law mechanically violated from without; namely, that the quantity of gold in circulation is determined by the prices of commodities and the quantity of tokens of value in

circulation is determined by the quantity of gold coin which it represents."

Page 155: "How many reams of paper cut up into bills can circulate as money? Put in that way the question would be absurd. The worthless tokens are signs of value only in so far as they represent gold within the sphere of circulation, and they represent it only to the extent to which it would itself be absorbed as coin by the process of circulation."

In fact the critique simply feigns with similar statements. But perhaps Comrade Dawson doesn't like the "Critique." Very well, let us look at Capital. From Capital, Vol. I., Kerr Edition, I cull the following:—

Capital, Vol. I., Page 143: "The State puts in circulation bits of paper on which their various denominations, say £1, £5, etc., are printed. In so far as they actually take the place of gold to the same amount their movement is subject to the laws that regulate the currency of money itself. A law peculiar to the circulation of paper money can spring up only from the proportion in which that paper money represents gold. Such a law exists; stated simply it is as follows: The issue of paper money must not exceed in amount the gold (or silver, as the case may be), which would actually circulate if not replaced by symbols."

Capital, Page 144: "If the paper money exceed its proper limit, which is the amount of gold coins of the like denomination that can actually be current it would, apart from the danger of falling into general disrepute, represent only that quantity of gold which in accordance with the laws of the circulation of commodities is required, and is alone capable of being represented by paper. If the quantity of paper money issued be double what it ought to be, then as a matter of fact £1 would be the name not of quarter of an ounce, but of one-eighth

of an ounce of gold. The effect would be the same as if an alteration had taken place in the function of gold as a standard of prices. Those values that were previously expressed by the price of £1 would now be expressed by the price of £2."

And now having taken the above quotations direct from Marx, I will add one from Edward Marling, who wrote a summary of Marx, Capital, Vol. I. He states in his "Students Marx," page 28: "The law of paper money is that the issue of paper money must not exceed the amount of gold that would circulate if there were no paper money."

Having shown that Marx does support this (according to Comrade Dawson) "false" position, I will outline Marx's position on Money generally. The average socially necessary labor-time embodied in commodities determine their value.

The money commodity gold is no exception, so that the sale and purchase of anything is really an exchange of the labor time which both the gold (money) and the article contain.

So (avoiding the reference to temporary disturbances), the price of any article is an amount of gold (money) which contains an equal amount of labor time in its production. Should gold be produced with less labor and other commodities remain the same, then we have a rise of prices.

For gold having less labor in it (becoming less valuable), we must give more of it to make up the difference. Com. Dawson sees this all right, and his contention that the gradual rise in prices for many years is due to the reduced value of gold, I quite agree with; but the sudden and rapid increase in prices since the war is mainly due to another cause: The note issue.

The amount of gold circulating as money is determined in this way. (See Capital, Chap. III.) The quantity of money functioning in circulation at a

An Interesting Letter.

Port Pirie.

Dear Comrade,

You will be thinking that I have deserted the cause, owing to the fact that my subscription is behind to the extent of some three months, and having had no word from me during the past few months. But as you well know, when one becomes class conscious, thus realising our economic condition in society, one chafers for my labor-power, and was thus unable to assist the cause materially; otherwise I have done my best, though it may not be much to bring the class will always want to assist in the emancipation of our class, and so it is with me.

My temporary neglect is due to the fact that until I came back here some three months ago, I was without a struggle before my fellow workers. It has given me great pleasure to see that the message I gave has not fallen on all barren soil.

Since my return to this place I have noticed that the rebel spirit is growing much more rapidly than before, and the Broken Hill Associated Smelters are aware of the fact, too, which can easily be seen in the many reforms and palliatives which the company are now offering the workers. To-day witnessed the opening of the Co-operative Store, which is financed by the company, and run by a committee appointed from the various departments in the works and others appointed by the company. The majority of the workers here, not being class conscious, do not realise what this scheme really means to them; they don't realise that their labor power is a commodity, and is treated as other commodities. The present award under which the employees are working runs out in less than twelve months, so you will understand the company's move, but of course the boneheads here believe that the company is doing this all for the workers' sake.

In August of last year the company inaugurated an Accident Fund, the company paying 6d a week and the employee 6d. a week into the fund, each member to belong to a union which had accepted the scheme, most of them did, accident pay being at the rate of £2 per week. Again one finds modern capitalism at its damnable work. The local wage slaves don't recognise that it is cheaper for the company to do this than to safeguard the workers against accident.

Some time back they brought in another bait, an attendance bonus, in the form of a fortnight's leave on full pay, for shift men, seven days a week, who did not lose more than 16 days, other than from sickness or accident, during the twelve months, and day workers, six days a week, who did not lose more than twelve days away from work. Many workers will deny themselves a day off now and then in order to get this bait, thereby injuring their health, and building up the boss' surplus value. The company is also building a pleasure and holi-

given time is the sum of the prices of all commodities concerned divided by the number of times which the same coins circulate, less that quantity worked on the basis of credit.

Says Marx: "Hence prices are not high or low, because there is more or less money in circulation, but, on the contrary, there is more or less money in circulation, because prices are high or low." Critique, page 136.

And here is where Comrade Dawson strikes on the economic rocks. By money Marx refers to the commodity—the thing of value—gold; not to notes.

When further on, he speaks of paper money, and also in Capital, he expressly states as in the many quotations I have given. This answers the challenge re Marx's position. In the next I will take up Comrade Dawson on the rest of his article.

CIVIL WAR IN FINLAND. "WHITES" AND "REDS."

STOCKHOLM, March 1.

At the elections held in November, 1917, out of a House of 200 members, 92 were Socialist Democrats, and 108 a conglomeration of parties that formed a "bloc" for Parliamentary purposes, sinking their differences in a united opposition to the Social Democrats.

The 108 members formed the "bourgeois" Government, which on the outbreak in January dispersed to seek safety elsewhere. It is in existence of a sort though not functioning at the capital.

On the January outbreak, house-searching parties were sent to seek for the bourgeois M.P.s and the civil guards (White Guards). Many were arrested, but the members of the Diet were afterwards set free. The members of the Government had fled, and for the most part eluded discovery.

With the help of the peasants, the "Whites" began operations in the north-west, in East Bosnia, and secured Vasa, which became their general headquarters. To-day the central railway from Kuopio is held by the "Whites" as far as Manti-harju. An army was formed under Gen. Baron G. Mannerheim, officered largely by young Finns, of the bourgeoisie, who, to the number of 2000-3000, had crossed into Germany for a military education, but had returned in a body after the effects of the Russian Revolution threatened to spread to Finland, and manned by volunteers who are mostly Swedish.

All the large towns and industrial centres are held by the "Reds." The "Reds" uphold the Bolshevik doctrines. The "Whites" look to support from Germany and Sweden. Sweden on Feb. 20, refused either to allow the transportation of arms and ammunition or to intervene (although the "Whites" were supported by the Swedish Activist Party), as being a breach of neutrality. A reason, which is probably stronger, was the danger of exciting the strongly developed Bolshevik tendency in Sweden by any action which would bring the country into direct conflict with the Bolsheviks.

A certain coolness has sprung up between the "Whites" and Sweden. There remains Germany. From her have been obtained both arms and ammunitions. W. T. GOODE—"Manchester Guardian."

day resort for the workers on the other side of the gulf. Since the war, and for some years before, there has been a shortage of workers here. The work is unhealthy, and men will not come here if they can sell their labor power elsewhere, though they have to sell it much cheaper elsewhere.

Another incident connected with the class struggle, showing the harm which craft unions do to the workers' cause, was a recent dispute between the Waterside Workers' here and the Federal Government. The W.W.'s went on strike at the coal elevators, owing to the refusal of the Government Board to allow another man on each hatch, which the Waterside Workers said was necessary for the safety of the men; the other unions—whose members worked the grabs—and the A.W.U., whose members did the unskilled work about the bins, decided that the dispute was between the W.W.'s and the Federal Government, and was no concern of theirs, this, too, when one on entering the local A.W.U. rooms, see such placards as "An injury to one is the concern of all," and "The Abolition of Wage Slavery," staring him in the face. When the wharf men went on strike, their work was done by the crews of the boats unloading coal, the other unions handling the coal from the grabs. The local branch of the A.W.U. decided that their members were not scabbing in so doing; the result was that the wharf men were beaten, and are not employed there, the work being, I believe, carried out by members of the Australian Government Workers' Association.

May the time soon come for us to fall in line with our Russian comrades.

Yours for the revolution.

Wm. J.M.

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payable at HAYMARKET Post Office,
Sydney, and address them to the Manag-
er "I.S.", 115 Goulburn St., Sydney,
N.S.W.The Fight for Free
Speech.Immediately after the disgraceful scene
that occurred in the Sydney Domain a
fortnight ago, when peaceful meetings
were broken up, and speakers pulled off
the box, and roughly handled by a gang
of hoodlums, a meeting was called togeth-
er at the S.D.S. rooms to decide ways and
means of combating a recurrence of the
trouble.A committee was formed from the fol-
lowing organisations, each of the latter
sending two delegates:—The Australian
Socialist Party, the Socialist Labor
Party, the Social Democratic League, the
Industrial Labor Party, Trades and Labor
Council, Women's Peace Army, Coach-
makers' Union, Workers' International
Industrial Union, the Release and Defence
Committee, and the Anti-Conscription
League.The Australian Labor Party was invit-
ed to send delegates, and also to co-oper-
ate in holding a monster protest meeting
on the Domain; but they refused. Com-
ment is unnecessary.The committee decided to hold a com-
bined meeting on the following Sunday,
June 23rd, and it was arranged that all
organisations should send a speaker and
forego their usual meetings to concen-
trate on the one.The result was certainly an unqualified
success; for once we had the grand sight
of a united front to the enemy. All or-
ganisations sunk their party differences
and disagreements, and joined together
in the fight for Free Speech.The police had forbidden any plat-
forms, table, or anything that could be
broken up and used as weapons on the
Domain, but after some difficulty and
argument they permitted a huge box to
be taken in, and with Com. Judd in the
chair the meeting began.It was certainly an enormous crowd
that listened to the latter's opening re-
marks; thousands of people packed clos-
ely together listened attentively to the
speakers. They responded splendidly to
the appeals for financial assistance, and
at the close of the meeting a sum of £34
was handed to the secretary of the com-
mittee.At the next meeting Com. Everitt, of
the A.S.P., was appointed treasurer, and
W. G. Jeffery, of the S.L.P., as secretary.

On Sunday, June 30th, another combin-

ed meeting was held on the Domain. The
weather was unusually cold and bleak,
and it was drizzling rain; but a good
crowd listened to the speakers, and a
good collection was taken.The disappointing part of the affair on
this Sunday, however, was that the I.L.P.
who sing "Solidarity for Ever," in the
loudest voice, and have called the official
organ "Solidarity," broke their compact,
which was to hold no meetings outside of
the combined one, and started out on
their own.It is no use commenting on this fact,
it speaks for itself, and very well illus-
trates and emphasises what sort of an
organisation the I.L.P. is.The last two Sundays have been quiet,
but the trouble is not over yet; if we dis-
organise it will undoubtedly recommence,
and then the I.L.P. may wish they had
not been in quite such a hurry to break
away.The committee have decided to hold
meetings in the country districts, and
circulate all labor organisations with
the following circular.

Fellow Citizens,

This appeal is being made to you on be-
half of the right of retaining that inalien-
able right which has been handed down
by those who in the past have suffered so
much for the RIGHTS OF THE FREE-
DOM OF SPEECH; in other words, the
right and privilege of expressing thoughts
and opinions by speech in public as-
semblage. It does not much matter what
your opinion is, or on what topic the
subject under discussion, you should have
the right as a citizen to discuss that sub-
ject in public assemblage.Thousands of noble men and women
have suffered untold miseries, degrada-
tion, and imprisonment, yea, some have
even given their lives for the cause, that
we could in the future discuss publicly
the opinions and beliefs that we think to
be proper and correct. It does not follow
that you as a thinker on religion, rational-
ism, law, medicine, trades unionism, or
socialism, should not be allowed free dis-
cussion; but it is so to-day, all radical,
and even those of religious beliefs, are in
danger of prosecution for expounding
views contrary to those held by the Gov-
ernment of this country. Already men
have been convicted.Meetings have been broken up,
speakers assaulted by soldiers and
R.V.A.'s, and following on that have
been arrested, brought before magis-
trates, suq conviction and followed,
in spite of the fact that the evidence of
the prosecution was conflicting.If you are a democrat you will protest
against such methods that stand on a par
with Prussianism and Czarism: such a
state of affairs must not be. We who
boast that we are a freedom-loving people
let us guard our rights.This committee is also to defend the
victims of the National Government.
Funds are urgently needed for the de-
fence of those who are being persecuted
and gaoled for advocating Free Speech.
All P.O. notes and money orders to be
made payable to Ray Everitt, treasurer,
115 Goulburn Street, City.We are also desirous that all organisa-
tions should express an opinion upon this
matter and forward same to the commit-
tee.Do not stand idly by, while little by
little your privileges are taken from you.
We desire your co-operation, morally and
otherwise; don't delay, it is dangerous to
do so. If you are desirous of keeping the
"RIGHT OF FREE SPEECH" let us
hear from you without delay, tell how
much and how best you can help us.

Yours in the interests of free speech.

Issued by the Free Speech Committee,
W. G. JEFFERY, Secretary.Funds are urgently needed, as Com.
Judd and Vance Marshall have both to
appear in Court again, and their expenses
must be met; also in the case of M. Mil-
burne, who was arrested on the first
Sunday; the committee are keeping his
wife and child during his pending trial.Prints of photos taken on Domain the
first Sunday of the combined meeting
may be obtained, 6d. each. Address all
orders and donations to Secretary Free
Speech Committee, 115 Goulburn St.,
Sydney.

Slams and Jabs.

By JAYBES.

The Workers' International Industrial
Union is the movement that asks you to
enlist in the industrial arm, to fight for
real freedom, economic freedom—real
peace, industrial peace—real liberty,
liberty to expand your brain and devote
your energies to the wellbeing of human-
ity if you are with us join in the ranks—
fall in.Mr. J. L. Garvin, writing in "The Ob-
server," says:"Mr. Hughes is the same trenchant,
kindling man of genius as before. His
difficulties have only fixed him more
firmly in the affection of all understand-
ing people."In another cable we are told that Billy
was given a supper by the Parliamentary
Association and several of the above men-
tioned understanding people were there,
including a prince, two marquises, ten
earls, eight viscounts, 25 barons and 60
knights.There can be no doubt in the minds of
the non-understanding people that the
ex-leader of the Australian Labor Party
is a thorough democrat.If "Jaybes" in the "International So-
cialist" said: "William Morris Hughes,
Prime Minister of Australia is one of
capitalism's best lackies and will never
be found wanting by the pirates of plu-
toocracy it would be nearer the truth, and
needless to say it would not be cabled
abroad.The Turks and Bulgarians are said to
be quarrelling over the spoils. This, of
course, indicates that there are "spoils"
to quarrel over, and we have been led to
believe that both of those countries had
been well walloped.When this war is over we will find
more quarrelling over the spoils, and it
is my prediction that when the capitalist
mongrel is scrapping over the bone the
working class dog will jump in and grab
the lot.In New Zealand, where an overdose of
British liberty is being administered, the
Maories are being arrested for refusing
to parade for medical examination. Here
we find a people who originally owned
the country being taken by force by the
same class who stole the country. I of-
ten wonder what the Maori thinks of our
boasted civilisation; apparently he is of
the opinion that he has no country to
fight for. How ignorant these Maories
are to be sure.Billy Hughes is as versatile as a circus
clown, though not as entertaining. First
we find him guffawing the war to a vi-
ctorious conclusion, then we find him garb-
ed in his Sabbath-day best claw hammer
coat gliding along the carpeted passages
of the Abbey collecting the tray bits from
lords and dukelets. Such is the life of a
puppet. Labor can well afford to stand
back and laugh at such antics, it only
shows to what depths a man has to sink
to gain the approbation of the world's
idlers.Austria, we are pleased to report, is be-
coming more and more impregnated with
the spirit of Bolshevism. Last week
100,000 struck at the Vulean Arsenal, and
the Warschalowski airplane works in
Vienna. It seems that Austria will dupli-
cate Russia. So long as Austrian soldiers
are only killing Allied soldiers, it is
quite legitimate, but if the workers get
control and repudiate war debts and war
loans, that, according to capitalist ethics,
is criminal. Private property is far more
sacred than human life, for it is the god
of international capitalism.If any man attempted to piece up the
cables appearing in the capitalist press
from time to time he would find himself
a raving lunatic inside three days. We
have it that M. Pichon, Minister for For-
eign Affairs, writing in "L'Homme
Libre" (Paris) semi-officially stated that
President Wilson had given his support
to the principle of Japanese intervention
in Siberia. The day following we are in-
formed that President Wilson is being
pressed for official sanction of Allied in-
tervention in Siberia. We find, too, that
"Bolshevism is doomed," and in the
same truthless rag we find that "the re-
actionary leader, General Semenov and
his Cossack forces have been defeated by
the Bolsheviks and have retreated into
Chinese territory." Again: that "the Ger-
man hordes are overrunning the Uk-INTERNATIONAL CAPITALISTS
SEEK COVER.An article in the "Berliner Tageblatt"
by a Pan-German, has a passage worth
quoting. The article was prepared by
Theodor Wolff, and as a solution of the
difficulty between Germany and Great
Britain, proposes:"The only way to get out of the vio-
lous circle of this war would be an eco-
nomic understanding based on an inter-
change of capital to be invested in the
two rival countries. By financially inter-
esting one country in the other's pros-
perity such undoubted advantages would
accrue to both rivals that future causes of
friction would be eliminated, and this
solution has often been suggested in Eng-
land itself.France, Italy, Russia, and even the
United States would benefit thereby. Fin-
ally a League of Nations can only be
created if all the causes of rivalry are
removed between the Great Powers who
belong to it. At the present moment,
when feeling runs so high, it sounds
strange to advance such an idea as above,
but it is necessary to do so, for otherwise
how is it possible to find a way out of this
terrible war? Is it not possible that the
solution of the problem may be found,
after all, in the direction pointed out by
the Frenchman seeking a panacea for
Europe's ills long before this strife be-
gan, who said:"Some day the Triple Entente will re-
concile its interests with those of the
Triple Alliance, and that will be the solu-
tion of the European situation."raine," and last evening we are told that
"the peasants of the Ukraine are in re-
volt, and that the uprisings have sprea-
d to other districts—the German troops
have been despatched to suppress the ris-
ing."If all of this is true then black is
white, and the moon made of green
cheese, the Czar that was is a democrat,
and we are fighting for liberty. Amen.
Glory be!The members of British I.L.P. who fell
in line with the despoilers of the working
class at the outbreak of this brutally
legalised holocaust find themselves where
all traitors must inevitably find them-
selves when that slumbering giant Labor
wakes. They are wailing like the whip-
ped curs over what they term "the inces-
sant sniping by anti-nationalist factions,"
and they have issued a manifesto in which
they tell us that they are in honor bound
to vote for something in opposition to
their own convictions, then they whine
about that being a condition of a Coal-
ition Government, and that they have
sunk their party differences.Honor be damned! There is no such
a thing as honor among job hunting
politicians and parliamentary parasites.There is only one honor to the working
class, and that is unwavering fidelity and
unflinching integrity to the international
cause of the robbed, disinherited, fooled,
betrayed toilers of the world. You are
betrayers to the cause you were pledged
to serve; like Judas of old you accepted
the pieces of gold, and when the day of
reckoning comes, and it is coming, just
as sure as the river seeks the sea, you will
be cast adrift. The class conscious work-
ing class are neither pro or anti, this na-
tion or the other, they are Anti capital-
ist and Pro working class, they are in-
ternational. Put not your trust in poli-
ticians, be they Liberal, Coalition, or
Labor. Trust yourself and your class,
and do your bit to help the ONE GREAT
UNION of the world's working class,
thereby assisting in bringing about that
day of which the poets dreamed, and for
which the heroic souls of ages passed gave
their lives; by this means and this alone
can the Industrial Republic of Labor be
realised. Remember the words of
Sheridan: "The surest way not to fail is
to determine to succeed." BE DETER-
MINED!"Samara hoists the old flag," says a
Reuter cable dated last Sunday. Samara
is a city of 100,000 population, and out of
that number there may (?) have been a
few bald-pated bone-headed royalists
stupid enough to hoist the old flag of that
blood-dripping monster Czar Nicholas.
We are not told, however, how long it
kept "hoisted," so we are safe in assum-
ing that it was a very temporary affair,
and nothing to write home about. How-
ever, "slander is the homage vice pays to
virtue." The press cannot tell the truth.

The Russian Revolution.

A Review and a Retrospect.

Compiled by J. A. D., W. H., J. B. S.

On February 10 the Bolshevik Government officially withdrew from the war without signing a peace treaty, in a manner new in international relations.

The Bolsheviks (International, Industrial Socialists) are blazing a new track in history. They have to march by the light of their own lantern. They have no chart to guide them, but must meet every fresh difficulty as it is forced upon them, and make history out of such conditions as are at hand. In such strenuous times, mere theorising is of no avail. They must be skilled in tactics. Right tactics can only come with a profound knowledge of the working class position, and must be in line with conditions. Bold moves always imply a risk.

The Bolsheviks rely a great deal upon the workers of other lands in their bold moves for International Socialism. Yet they also have plenty of self-reliance and initiative, and time and time again when the proletariat of outside nations have failed them, they have always been able to maintain their position in a proletarian manner.

Never before in history has the Political Socialist movement shown itself in such an infamous manner. The politicians have worse than failed, they have gone over to the enemy. Some indeed, like Leibknecht, shine out in all the grandeur of working class patriotism—the patriotism for the International—but such only throw into greater prominence the perfidy of the majority of Socialist politicians. Well may the Bolsheviks cry out: "May the blood shed in this unequal struggle fall on the heads of the German Socialists, who are allowing the German workmen to be ranked among the Gains and Judases." But we are digressing, and in advance of our narrative.

On February 15 Trotsky reported to the Central Executive Committee of the Soviets, on the results of the Brest-Litovsk negotiations. He stated that Russia's withdrawal from the war was genuine, and that it implied the annulment of all agreements with the Allies. The Committee approved Trotsky's policy, and expressed its confidence that the workers of Germany and Austria would not allow a new offensive against the workers of Russia.

Although there is at times a difference of opinion as to an immediate tactical move among the Bolsheviks, yet on this they are one and impregnable. Socialism to them means an International Industrial Republic of Labor—the whole wide world over. To this end their tactics are based.

Germany did not regard the war as ended. Von Kuhlmann stated that if no peace treaty were signed, Russia would still be at war with Germany. The fact that Russia was demobilising its army, he said, did not change the position.

The Bolsheviks must carry on the class war, hence it was almost impossible for them to sign a "peace" treaty with capitalist Germany. The German Junkers know this, and this is the secret of their opposition to the Bolsheviks—it is also the reason of the hatred shown by France, Great Britain and Japan to Russia—hence public opinion was worked up against Russia by stories that the Bolsheviks were arresting and mistreating Germans in Russia in large numbers. On February 14, the "Berliner Neueste Nachrichten," a German daily inspired from high army circles, wrote in effect:

"For us the state of war remains, and the fact of our possession of occupied eastern territory remains, too. The army command stands by the point of view that so long as the Russian Government does not produce proofs that it wishes peace earnestly and honestly, so long as it does not bring guarantees for that, and so long as evil agitation" (i.e., Socialist propaganda) "is carried on among German troops by Russian officers under orders of the Russian Army command, the situation can only produce further hostilities."

Under the truce signed on December 15, seven days' notice had to be given before hostilities should commence. Ger-

many did not give such notice. This is quite certain. On February 15 a conference of the chief German military and political leaders, including the Emperor, reached a decision to recommence hostilities after noon on February 18. What notice was given the Russian Government we have not been able to find out. At 2 p.m. on Feb. 18, the Germans crossed the Dvina Bridge, which the Russians had not blown up, and entered Dvinsk, meeting no resistance.

The Germans' objective in the North was the seizing of Estonia and Livonia. The town of Lutsik, in the Province of Volhynia, was occupied without fighting. Germany excused herself for this violation of the armistice by declaring that it was their aim to "rescue the population of these provinces from Bolshevik rule. And according to an official German statement, the "national Socialists" of the Ukraine had appealed to Germany in these words: "In this hard struggle for our existence we look round for help. We are firmly convinced that the peaceful (!) and order-loving German people will not remain indifferent when it learns of our distress. The German army possesses the power to help us... against the enemy."

The enemy, of course, being the International Bolsheviks. Prince Leopold of Bavaria declared that the aim of the advance was not annexation but restoration of ("bourgeois") order and suppression of Bolshevik propaganda which threatened to infect Europe.

On February 18 the Council of People's Commissaries held an all-night sitting, which took up the question of capitulation, and the peace proposal was carried by a majority of one vote. At 5.30 in the morning of February 19, a proclamation was issued over the signatures of Lenin and Trotsky, protesting against the German advance, but announcing that "in the present circumstances the Council of People's Commissaries regards itself as forced formally to declare its willingness to sign a peace upon the conditions which had been dictated by the delegations of the Quadruple Alliance at Brest-Litovsk."

Later in the day Krylenko, the Bolshevik Commander-in-Chief, issued the following message to the Russian troops:

"The Council of People's Commissaries has offered to the Germans to sign peace immediately. I order that in all cases where Germans are encountered massed, pourparlers with the German soldiers should be organised, and the proposal to refrain from fighting made to them. If Germans refuse, then you must offer to them every possible resistance."

Speaking on the same day before the Executive Committee of the Soviets, Lenin defended the step of the Commissaries by pointing out that the country was unable to offer resistance, and that peace was indispensable for the completion of the Social Revolution in Russia. He also argued that the Imperialist Governments now at war would sooner or later unite for the purpose of crushing the Socialist Commonwealth of Russia, and that it was, therefore, imperative to make peace while Russia's enemies were divided.

The German reply came late in the afternoon in the form of a telegram signed by General Hoffmann: "To the Council of People's Commissaries—a wireless message, signed by Nikolai Lenin, and Leon Trotsky from Tsarkoe Selo was today (Feb. 19) received at Konig Wusterhausen at 9.12 a.m. It has been handed over to the royal Government, although a wireless message cannot be regarded as an official document because the original signatures are absent. I am authorised to request from you authentication in writing of the wireless message, which must be sent to the German command at Dvinsk."

The Russian answer was as follows: "We are sending to-day from Petrograd a messenger to Dvinsk with the wireless message containing the original signatures of Lenin and Trotsky. We beg you to give us an acknowledgment of this message and inform us if it has been received promptly. We also beg you to reply in Russian"—"Council of the Peoples' Com-

INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND NOTES.

RUSSIA.

Vladivostok Landing—Strong Russian Protest.

MOSCOW, April 6.

On the receipt of the news of the landing of the Japanese and British forces at Vladivostok, representatives here of Great Britain, France and the United States were invited to the offices of the Commission for Foreign Affairs.

M. Chitcherin, Acting Commissary, protested against the invasion of the territory of the Republic by foreign troops, and expressed his regret that the Powers had tolerated such an invasion. He declared that this occurrence was producing an unfavorable effect, which would be reflected in the relations of the Russian Republic and the Entente Powers. The only solution was the immediate removal of the detachments that had been landed.

The representatives of the Entente promised to convey these declarations to their Governments.

The alleged reason for this invasion was that Japanese business houses had been pillaged. American troops were ready on board at Vladivostok but did not land.

The United States representative, according to a Russian semi-official account of the proceedings, said his Government was opposed to the Japanese action.

Vigorous Resistance Promised.

After discussing the landing at Vladivostok, the Central Executive Committee for Siberia adopted the following resolution, which was immediately transmitted to Vladivostok for the guidance of the authorities there in their future conduct:

"The Central Executive Committee for Siberia protests against the Japanese landing at Vladivostok, as by no means justified by the insignificant incidents in

missaries."

A courier was forthwith despatched to Dvinsk, but the Germans did not hasten to declare their attitude towards the Russian proposal. Meanwhile the invasion continued almost unopposed, and on Feb. 21, German armies were 70 miles north-east of Riga, Estonia was occupied, and Germans came into touch with Ukrainian troops. On Feb. 23 the Turkish army began an offensive in the Caucasus.

In these circumstances the Bolshevik authorities called upon the people to resist the invaders and organise a guerilla warfare, if necessary. "The duty of Russian workmen and peasants is defence to the death of the Republic against the masses of bourgeoisie and Imperialists of Germany," said the People's Commissaries in a proclamation issued on Feb. 22, urging the following points:

First—All the forces in the country in their entirety must place themselves at the service of the defence of the revolution.

Second—All the Soviets must enter into the compulsory defence of each position to the last drop of their blood.

Third—Organisations on railways and the Soviets connected therewith are obliged with all their strength to check attempts of the enemy to profit by the equipment of lines of communication.

In their retreat they must blow up stations and destroy the railways. All rolling stock must be sent eastward into the interior without delay.

Fourth—Corn and provisions in general are placed on the same footing as valuable property when in danger of falling into the hands of the enemy, and must then be destroyed. The local Soviets must see that these decisions are carried out.

Fifth—Workmen and peasants of Petrograd, Kiev, and the towns and hamlets on the line of the new front must raise battalions to dig trenches under direction of the military Socialists.

Sixth—All members of the bourgeois class, the women as well as the men, must enter these battalions under surveillance of the Red Guards, and in case of resistance must be shot.

Seventh—All institutions which offer resistance to the action of the revolution

question, which are such as may happen at any time. The workmen and peasants of Siberia will organise vigorous resistance to any attempt on the part of the Japanese Imperialists to seize any district of Siberia. The protection of foreign subjects is the task of the local Soviet which possesses all the means necessary for its fulfilment. Japanese intervention can in no way contribute to the establishment of order and security, and even at the best is superfluous and useless.

"The Siberian workmen and peasants will do anything to prevent the counter-revolution from accomplishing its disintegrating work of betraying the interests of the proletariat. The counter-revolution will be mercilessly crushed. Martial law is declared throughout the whole of Siberia, and revolutionary staffs are to organise the defence of the Revolution against the Imperialist Invasion."—Reuter.

"Manchester Guardian's" Opinion.

In a leading article of April 9 the above says:—"The more correct and the more prudent course would have been to have brought the facts before the notice of the Moscow Government. Vladivostok is Russia's gate to the Pacific, and she has few sea-gates of any kind now. She is therefore justly sensitive to any foreign interference, particularly when the foreign intervention follows upon a prolonged campaign of menace. But an end to the incident as quickly as possible—that is the counsel of common sense for the Allies."

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Man Power Bill—Business NOT as Usual—Men to be Combed out of Industry.

The needs of shipbuilding and food production are to be considered as far as

Continued on page 1.

on the defensive and pass to the side of the German bourgeoisie, or which have a tendency to profit by the invasion of the Imperialistic masses in order to overthrow the authority of the Soviets, must be closed. Directors of and collaborators with these institutions who are capable of work must mobilise themselves to dig trenches and engage in other defensive works.

Eighth—Foreign agents and speculators are counted as counter-revolutionary agitators, and German spies must be shot at sight. The Socialist Fatherland is in danger. Long live the Social Revolution."

Another official proclamation declared: "We agreed to sign peace terms at the cost of enormous concessions in order to save the country from final exhaustion and the ruin of the revolution. Once more the German working class, in this threatening hour, has shown itself insufficiently determined to stay the strong criminal hand of its own militarism. We had no choice but to accept the conditions of German imperialism until a revolution changes or cancels them."

"The German Government is not hastening to reply to us, evidently aiming to seize as many important positions in our territory as possible. The enemy has occupied Dvinsk, Werder and Lutsik, and is continuing to strangle by hunger the most important centres of the revolution."

"We even now are convinced, firmly that the German working class will rise against the attempt of the ruling class to stifle the revolution, but we cannot predict with certainty when this will occur. The German Imperialists may hesitate at nothing for the purpose of destroying the authority of the councils and taking the land from the peasants."

"The Commissaries call on all loyal councils and army organisations to use all efforts to re-create the army. Perverted elements of hooligans, marauders, and cowards shall be expelled from the ranks, and, in the event of resistance, wiped off the face of the earth."

"The bourgeoisie, who under Kerensky and the Czar, evaded the burden of war, and profited from its misfortunes, must be made to fulfil their duties by the most decisive and merciless measures."

(To be continued next Issue.)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS AND NOTES.

Continued from Page 3.

possible (Great Britain has become one huge potato patch and vegetable garden), though they cannot come into the provisions of the Man Power Bill, but it seems clear that the desperate step is to be taken of jettisoning all export trade, and therefore all import trade except what is accounted for by the direct needs of our Allies and ourselves—says a British exchange. All consideration of "maintaining the exchanges" and buying our food must go by the board. To put it shortly, except so far as our coal is wanted by our Allies, we shall have to go into debt to America for all we want in the way of food-stuffs, munitions and necessities."

British Press Comment.

"It is obvious that the wholesale withdrawal of men between 41 and 50 (a higher age than in Germany, France, or Italy), and the threatened withdrawal of men up to 56, will have no effect on the course of military events during the next six months. At no time, according to Mr. George's figure of 7 per cent., can they have much effect as a fighting element. But their withdrawal means disaster to the productive capacity of the country, for these men are the framework of industry. If they go industry goes. Already the bones have been stripped bare of labor. Now the bones themselves are to be taken. The reaction of this upon the production of the material of war and upon the fighting capacity to pay for the war seems no comment. But it is when we come to the question of Ireland that we reach the most menacing feature of the proposals. It is a proposal which, tested by Mr. Asquith's teaching, seems like midsummer madness."

"Daily News," 8-4-18.

"However slowly the new classes are ended up, it will mean the closing down of hundreds, probably thousands, of businesses. Further, there is the announcement that claims on account of single men businesses and business hardships will be considered with a new severity and there is small chance of keeping essential men who have been exempted till now."—Manchester Guardian.

Pope's Peace Note Ignored.

In the House of Lords on Friday, June 14, Lord Bryce said that under a secret treaty the Allies opposed any endeavour on the part of the Holy See to promote peace, and treated the Pope's Note with contempt, while the flower of the nation's youth and middle-age was being butchered. Europe was already knee-deep in blood; the tide was steadily rising, and would soon reach the horse's bridles.

The secret treaty referred to was published by Leon Trotsky when found in the archives of the Foreign Office at Petrograd. It is portion of a secret treaty which Italy made with Russia, Great Britain and France, and was signed on April 26, 1915. Article XV. reads: "France, Great Britain and Russia undertake to support Italy in so far as she does not permit the representatives of the Holy See to take diplomatic action with regard to the conclusion of peace and the regulation of questions connected with the war." Signed: Edward Grey, Jules Cambon, Imperiali, Benckendorff.

"The bidding for Peace took a long time to start; but now that it has started, it is bewilderingly brisk. It seems only yesterday that to have any war aims at all was denounced as the blackest-pro-German treason. Victory, smashing, triumphant victory, without any ulterior motive whatever except 'the crushing of Prussian militarism' (the same thing in other words), was the whole aspiration of the pugnacious patriot. To give Germany a knockout blow was admissible; but to take anything from her, or want anything from her, or compromise the purity of our position as the ministers of God's wrath against her, was flat corruption. 'Get on with the war,' we said, rather superfluously, as the war was getting on with us quite as fast as we could keep up with it, and a little faster occasionally in the Atlantic. 'What for?' asked a few impossible people. 'Never mind; get on with the war,' we said.

And really we were justified by the facts, because the rulers of Germany showed no signs of troubling themselves about our aims, or caring whether we had any or not. They did not think our aims mattered, because they did not intend to let us achieve them. And it suited them very well that we should keep declaring that we were out to crush them. That was precisely what they had been telling the German people, to convince them that

INDUSTRIAL VERSUS CRAFT UNIONISM.

By Wm. E. Gay.

A few years ago, it was only a very limited number of persons who understood what Industrial Unionism meant. To-day we hear quite a large number advocating One Great Union. To counteract the proposals put forward by Revolutionary Socialists, we witness the spectacle of the capitalist press bestowing its blessing upon the "sane" labor leader, who still hold to the antiquated craft union form of organization. The press will even publish the photos of these leaders, also anything they say in opposition to the workers' best interests. Why is this so?

The capitalist class realise that the working class are the great majority in society, and that so long as the workers are organised into craft unions, so long does he have them at his mercy, and therefore it is the capitalist duty to pay a little homage to his able lieutenants for doing their share in keeping the workers divided in his interests. The average wage stiff is too apathetic to analyse the difference between the craft union and the industrial form of organization, and he becomes very indignant when the craft union to which he belongs is denounced, and he argues that he is a good unionist because he has a paid up dues card. Nevertheless the workers are divided.

Let us have a glance at the different industries as they are to-day, and we find that in one industry alone dozens of unions are represented. Say we take a machinery manufacturing establishment, and what do we find? We find that the engineers, i.e., fitters, turners, drillers, machinists, belong to two antagonistic craft unions, the blacksmiths, another separate union, strikers, laborers, boilermakers' assistants another, boilermakers another, patternmakers another, packers another, moulders another, painters another, clerks another, and to make confusion confounded all of these organisations have separate "sacred" agreements, which terminate on different dates.

It will readily be seen that although the worker is in a craft union he is still divided from his fellow work mate. Furthermore, these craft unions provide nice cosy jobs for union parasites at a good weekly pay. Industrial Unionism is the direct antithesis of craft unionism. Industrial Unionism means that the workers, working in any one industry, shall be organised into one department of industry irrespective of the work performed. This form of organisation, as advocated by the W.I.U., will prevent the workers from scabbing upon each other, by abolishing separate agreements and instilling into the minds of the wage slave that "An Injury to one is an Injury to all." Furthermore it will drill the workers as to how to direct industry, so that they will be in a position to run industry, when the capitalist system has been abolished, with the least possible amount of friction.

Workers of the world, you have a glorious future looming before you, wake up and abolish the rotten system that keeps us in poverty amidst plenty, the system that makes so degrading citizens of the workers, this can be done when you want it. I want to abolish the cause of wars, inequality and injustice and the W.I.U. has plenty of room for any wage worker to help build one of the great weapons that will smash the capitalist system out of existence. Who will join up and help me?

Rise like lions after slumber,
In unvanquishable numbers,
Shake your chains to earth like dew,
Which in sleep had fallen on you,
Ye are many, they are few.

—Shelley.

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they must fight us to the bitter end in simple self-preservation; and they are only too glad to have our word to support them.—George Bernard Shaw.

A. S. P.

NEWS AND NOTES.

BARRIER BRANCH.

The working men and women in Broken Hill as in many other parts of Australia, are at present showing an increased apathy towards the Labor Party. In spite of the Labor politicians' catch cry that their difference with the Nationalist is that of anti-conscription versus conscription, many of their former supporters are beginning to think for themselves.

Both parties stand for a system of conscription, and both stand for the administration of capitalism. Those who desire to perpetuate capitalism, with its inevitable militarism and bloody warfare, can vote for either crowd.

Those who, on the other hand, stand for Socialism for a future where exploitation will no longer prevail, have no interest for either party except to oppose it.

All who want Socialism must get into organisations that have one plank and one objective, "The Social Revolution." In education along class lines and uniting in Industrial International Unions lies their emancipation.

In the hall last Sunday week Miss R. Swan delivered a lecture on "Education."

Last Sunday Mr. Trenwith delivered an interesting lecture on "Rebellion." The speaker, in the course of his lecture, dealt with the many rebellions that in the past have been attempted by the oppressed lower classes. Dealing with the revolts of slaves against Rome, the speaker mentioned the attempt made under the leadership of Spartacus, showing how the defeat of his army and the executions that followed resulted in a subterranean method of organisation. Christ and his followers spreading their doctrines amongst the slaves under the guise of religion.

The speaker traced the evolution of society from chattel slavery to feudalism, and from feudalism to capitalism, showing how in the American and French revolutions the workers went forth to fight for the rising capitalists in the name of "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity," and emerged from the revolution as wage slaves.

He also dealt with the Paris Commune, which he stated was a distinctly working class uprising of how the capitalists of different nations dropped their petty quarrels and made common cause in putting down the revolt.

Dealing with the present situations the speaker referred to the persecution of working class advocates during the past few years, pointing out to rebels the only way they can benefit their class is by educating themselves on the working class movement and organising industrially.

Next Sunday Galway is going to deliver a lecture in the hall on "Single Tax."

—Press Correspondent.

The Workers' International Industrial Union.



PREAMBLE.

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people, and the few who made up the employing class have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the toilers come together on the political field under the banner of a distinct revolutionary political party governed by the workers class interests, and on the industrial field under the banner of One Great Industrial Union to take and hold all means of production and distribution, and to run them for the benefit of all wealth producers.

The rapid gathering of wealth and the centralising of the management of industries into fewer hands make the trades union unable to cope with the evergrowing power of the employing class, because the trades unions foster a state of things which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. The trades unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These sad conditions must be changed, the interests of the working-class upheld, and while the capitalist rule still prevails all possible relief for the workers must be secured. That can only be done by an organisation aiming steadily at the complete overthrow of the capitalist wage system, and formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries, if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lock-out is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

For further information write to the—
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Any branch desiring matter published under the above heading, should write clearly what is needed, and forward same to this office.

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